

In The Claims:

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1. (Currently Amended) A door assembly comprising:
a top rail;
a bottom rail;
a hinge stile;
a latch stile[, said top rail, said bottom rail, said latch stile, said hinge stile and defining a door void therebetween];
a plurality of spaced apart spacers [spacer] disposed [within the void having a first side and a second side] between said top rail, said bottom rail, said latch stile, and said hinge stile;
a first sheet of fire-resistant insulating material coupled to said first side;
a second sheet of fire-resistant insulating material coupled to said second side;
said first sheet of fire-resistant material, said second sheet of fire-resistant material and said plurality of spacers defining a void therebetween;
a first outer skin coupled adjacent to said first sheet opposite said plurality of spacers [spacer]; and
a second outer skin coupled adjacent to said second sheet opposite said plurality of spacers [spacer].
2. (Original) A door assembly as recited in claim 1 wherein said first fire-resistant insulating material and said second fire-resistant insulating material comprises a gypsum-based material.
3. (Original) A door assembly as recited in claim 1 wherein said gypsum based material has a fibrous mat therearound.
4. (Original) A door assembly as recited in claim 1 wherein said spacer is selected from the group of wood spacers, gypsum pads, concrete, corrugated cardboard, and a honeycomb material.

5. (Original) A door assembly as recited in claim 1 wherein said spacer is formed of a plurality of studs.

6. (Original) A door assembly as recited in claim 5 wherein said plurality of studs are composed of steel.

Please cancel claim 7.

8. (Currently Amended) A door assembly as recited in claim [7] 1 wherein said void has fill material therein.

9. (Currently Amended) A door assembly comprising:
a first vertical edge;
a second vertical edge spaced apart from said first vertical edge;
a top rail coupled to said first vertical edge and said second vertical edge;
a bottom rail spaced apart from said top rail coupled to said first vertical edge and said second vertical edge;
a plurality of spaced-apart spacers disposed between said first vertical edge, said second vertical edge, said top rail and said bottom rail, said plurality of spaced-apart spacers having a first side and a second side;
a first sheet of fire-resistant insulating material coupled to said first side;
a second sheet of fire-resistant insulating material coupled to said second side;
said first vertical edge, said second vertical edge, said top rail, said bottom rail, said spacers, said first sheet and said second sheet defining a void therebetween;
a first outer skin coupled to said first sheet opposite said plurality of spacers; and
a second outer skin coupled to said second sheet opposite said plurality of spacers.

10. (Original) A door assembly as recited in claim 9 wherein said first sheet of fire-resistant insulating material is coupled to said first vertical edge, said second vertical edge, said top rail and said bottom rail.

11. (Currently Amended) A door assembly [as recited in claim 9 wherein] comprising:

a first vertical edge;

a second vertical edge spaced apart from said first vertical edge;

a top rail coupled to said first vertical edge and said second vertical edge;

a bottom rail spaced apart from said top rail coupled to said first vertical edge and said second vertical edge;

a plurality of spaced-apart spacers disposed between said first vertical edge, said second vertical edge, said top rail and said bottom rail, said plurality of spaced-apart spacers having a first side and a second side;

a first sheet of fire-resistant insulating material coupled to said first side;

a second sheet of fire-resistant insulating material coupled to said second side,

said second sheet of fire-resistant insulating material is coupled to said first vertical edge, said second vertical edge, said top rail and said bottom rail;

a first outer skin coupled to said first sheet opposite said plurality of spacers; and

a second outer skin coupled to said second sheet opposite said plurality of spacers.

12. (Original) A door assembly as recited in claim 9 wherein said first fire-resistant insulating material and said second fire-resistant insulating material comprises a gypsum-based material.

13. (Original) A door assembly as recited in claim 9 wherein said gypsum based material has a fibrous mat therearound.

14. (Original) A door assembly as recited in claim 9 wherein said plurality of spaced-apart spacers are selected from the group of wood spacers, gypsum pads, concrete, corrugated cardboard, and a honeycomb material.

15. (Original) A door assembly as recited in claim 9 wherein said plurality of spaced-apart spacers are formed of studs.

16. (Original) A door assembly as recited in claim 15 wherein said plurality of studs are composed of steel.

Please cancel claim 17.

18. (Currently Amended) A door assembly as recited in claim 9 [16] wherein said void has fill material therein.

19. (Original) A door assembly as recited in claim 9 wherein said first sheet of fire-resistant insulating material, said second sheet of fire-resistant insulating material, and said plurality of spaced-apart spacers comprise a core having a predetermined thickness, said first vertical edge, said second vertical edge, said top rail and said bottom rail having said predetermined thickness.

20. (Currently Amended) A method of forming a door comprising:
coupling a plurality of spaced-apart spacers, a pair of rails and a pair of stiles between a first sheet of fire-resistant insulating material and a second sheet of fire-resistant insulating material to form a plurality of voids therebetween;

coupling a first outer skin to the first sheet of fire-resistant insulating material; and

coupling a second outer skin to the second sheet of fire-resistant insulating material.

21. (Original) A method as recited in claim 20 wherein coupling forms a void between said plurality of spaced-apart studs, said first sheet of fire-resistant insulating material and said second sheet of fire-resistant insulating material.

22. (Original) A method as recited in claim 20 further comprising filling said void with a fire-resistant insulating material.

23. (Original) A method as recited in claim 20 wherein coupling a plurality of spaced-apart spacers comprises coupling a plurality of spaced-apart studs between a first sheet of fire-resistant insulating material and a second sheet of fire-resistant insulating material.

24. (Currently Amended) A door assembly comprising:
a first vertical edge;
a second vertical edge spaced apart from said first vertical edge;
a top rail coupled to said first vertical edge and said second vertical edge;
a bottom rail spaced apart from said top rail coupled to said first vertical edge and said second vertical edge;
a plurality of spaced-apart spacers disposed between said first vertical edge, said second vertical edge, said top rail and said bottom rail, said plurality of spaced-apart spacers having a first side and a second side;
a first sheet of fire-resistant insulating material coupled to said first side;
[and]
a second sheet of fire-resistant insulating material coupled to said second side; and
said first vertical edge, said second vertical edge, said top rail, said bottom rail, said spacers, said first sheet, said second sheet and said spacers defining a plurality of voids therebetween.

25. (Previously Added and Currently Amended)

A door assembly as

recited in claim 1 wherein said top rail, said bottom rail, said hinge stile and said latch stile have [a define] a first thickness, said spacer, said first sheet of fire resistant material and said second sheet of fire resistant material having the first thickness.
